Mountain Weather Forecast

South Grampian and Southeast Highlands

Including South and East Cairngorms National Park, Aberdeenshire and Angus Hills, Ben Vrackie, Ben Lawers, Loch Tay and Ochils
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 30 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Saturday 30 Dec 2023 at 03:07 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for Saturday and for less severe conditions on Sunday, but lower for snow and cloud amounts and wind strength Sunday and Monday. Low for broader weather from Tuesday.

Headline for Saturday 30 Dec 2023: An increasingly cloudy morning. Persistent snow and gales in the afternoon.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 30 Dec 2023

Blizzards High Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** High Likelihood	**Storm force winds** Low Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Cloudy	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability					
00%	<05%	40%	>95%	90%	90%

Forecast for Saturday 30 Dec 2023

Weather: High cloud increases towards dawn, thickening and lowering through the morning. Persistent heavy snow and summit gales in the afternoon and evening, turning to rain below 500m around dusk, then below 1000m in the evening. Rain and summit snow turning light and patchy towards midnight.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70% in the morning. Nil in the afternoon.

Low Cloud and visibility: Very good visibility in the morning with the main cloud base well above the summits. Some patchy cloud around 800m across the eastern hills. Cloud quickly lowering to 300-400m after midday with near zero visibility in blizzards on the hills.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
© Crown Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.

Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 30 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1100	18/21 W	17/20 E	34/40 SE	46/57 SE	45/55 SE	28/35 SE	24/29 S
900	6/9 W	11/14 E	24/31 SE	34/45 SE	30/40 SE	18/25 SE	17/22 S
600	7/10 W	5/7 SE	13/24 SE	22/36 SE	17/30 SE	11/22 SE	9/18 S
300	4/12 W	1/1 NE	6/14 E	12/26 E	11/25 E	6/18 SE	4/11 E
Glen	4/9 SW	2/4 NW	6/13 E	14/28 SE	15/31 E	7/19 SE	3/10 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1100	-4/-12	-3/-9	-4/-13	-4/-16	-2/-11	-1/-8	-2/-8
900	-3/-7	-2/-7	-2/-10	-3/-12	-0/-8	0/-5	-0/-6
600	-1/-5	-1/-4	-0/-6	-1/-8	0/-6	2/-2	2/-2
300	-1/-4	-3/-5	1/-2	1/-4	1/-3	3/1	3/1
Glen	0/-2	-1/-3	1/-2	3/-2	3/-2	5/2	4/2
Freezing Level*	200m	200m	500m	400m	600m	1100m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Extremely challenging conditions on the hills with near zero visibility, heavy snow and summit gales making any progress very difficult, especially at higher levels.

Forecast for Sunday 31 Dec 2023
Weather: Dull and grey with persistent low cloud and frequent mainly light snow flurries, falling as rain below 700m. Perhaps turning drier in the evening and for midnight, but low cloud will persist.

Maximum wind: South 10-15 mph gusting 20 mph, becoming Southeast in the afternoon then northeast 10 mph in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% or less.

Low Cloud and visibility: Generally very poor visibility with persistent low cloud, with cloud bases around 300-400m.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 Celsius, falling to minus 1 Celsius in the evening.
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius falling to minus 3 Celsius in the evening.
Freezing level: 800-900m.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
© Crown Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.